

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims below is intended to replace all prior listing of the claims in the present application.

67. (currently amended) A method of activating a gene to be expressed in a recombinatorial substrate, comprising:

providing a ~~transgenic~~ mammal carrying a DNA molecule comprising a recombinatorial substrate, said recombinatorial substrate being present in somatic cells of the mammal and comprising:

a promoter element capable of promoting transcription of genes in the recombinatorial substrate;

a gene whose expression is to be controlled, said gene being positioned 3' to the promoter element to facilitate its transcription;

a terminator positioned 3' to said promoter and 5' to said gene whose expression is to be controlled to prevent transcription of genes 3' to said terminator; and

a first recombination site located 3' to said terminator and a second recombination site located 5' to said terminator, whereby treatment of said DNA molecule with a recombinase specific to the recombination sites removes said terminator from said DNA molecule, thereby activating the recombinatorial substrate and permitting transcription of said gene whose expression is to be controlled, wherein the ~~transgenic~~ mammal has no gene encoding a recombinase,

introducing into the ~~transgenic~~ mammal, through its somatic cells, a gene encoding a recombinase and

expressing said recombinase, which when expressed in the somatic cells, will promote the excision of DNA from said first recombination site to said second recombination site within the recombinatorial substrate and wherein activation of said gene whose expression is to be controlled confers a detectable and/or functional phenotype on the mammal when expressed in the somatic cells of the mammal.

68. (currently amended) The method of claim 67, wherein said introducing comprises:

providing a vector comprising the gene encoding a recombinase and introducing the vector directly into the somatic cells of the ~~transgenic~~ mammal.

69. (original) The method of claim 68, wherein the vector is a virus.

70. (original) The method of claim 69, wherein the virus is selected from the group consisting of adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, lentivirus, vaccinia virus, sinbisvirus, and retrovirus.

71. (currently amended) The method of claim 67, wherein said introducing is carried out by delivering a nucleic acid molecule comprising the gene encoding a recombinase into the somatic cells of the ~~transgenic~~ mammal by use of virosomes, liposomes, naked DNA, or particle bombardment.

72. (original) The method according to claim 67, wherein the recombinase is selected from the group consisting of FLP and *cre*.

73. (currently amended) A method of activating a recombinatorial substrate, comprising:

providing a ~~transgenic~~ mammal carrying a DNA molecule comprising a recombinatorial substrate, said recombinatorial substrate being present in somatic cells of the mammal and comprising:

a promoter element capable of promoting transcription of genes in the recombinatorial substrate,

a gene whose expression is to be controlled, said gene being positioned 3' to the promoter element to facilitate its transcription, and

a first recombination site located 3' to the gene whose expression is to be controlled and a second recombination site located 5' to the gene whose expression is to be controlled, whereby treatment of said DNA molecule with

a recombinase specific to the recombination sites removes said gene whose expression is to be controlled from said DNA molecule, thereby activating the recombinatorial substrate and resulting in a loss of function of said gene whose expression is to be controlled, wherein the ~~transgenic~~ mammal has no gene encoding a recombinase;

introducing into the ~~transgenic~~ mammal, through its somatic cells, a gene encoding a recombinase, and

expressing said recombinase, which when expressed in the somatic cells, will promote the excision of DNA from said first recombination site to said second recombination site within the recombinatorial substrate and wherein activation of said recombinatorial substrate confers a detectable and/or functional phenotype on the mammal.

74. (currently amended) The method of claim 73, wherein said introducing comprises:

providing a vector comprising the gene encoding a recombinase;

and

introducing the vector directly into the somatic cells of the ~~transgenic~~ mammal.

75. (currently amended) The method of claim 74, wherein said introducing is carried out by delivering a nucleic acid molecule comprising the gene encoding a recombinase into the somatic cells of the ~~transgenic-human~~ mammal by use of virosomes, liposomes, naked DNA, or particle bombardment.

76. (original) The method of claim 73, wherein the recombinase is selected from the group consisting of FLP and *cre*.